New Railway Line Projects for Punjab

447. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH KALYAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the new Railway line projects which have been announced in the Railway Budget for the year 1997-98 for Punjab;

(b) the cost of each project;

(c) the project for which technical sanction has been given; and

(d) the amount provided for the said projects in the budget for 1997-98? THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) to (d) The information is given below:—

Project	Cost (Rs.in Crs.)	Position of Tech. sanction.	outlay 1997-98
Ludhiana-Chandigarh	248.43	Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs approval is yet to be obtained.	Rs.l lac.
Taran-Tarn Govindwal	22.96	Planning Commission's approval is awaited	Rs.l lac.
Bcas-dera Baba Jaimal Singh	3.18	Planning commission's approval has been received. detailed estimate is under preperation.	Will be provided in this Supplementary Budget 1997-98.

बीना-सिरौंज-राजगढ़ रेल मार्ग को जोडने के लिए सवेक्षण

448. **श्री राघवजी** : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे किः

(क) क्या पिछले पांच वर्षो के दौरान बीना-सिरौज-राजगढ़ (मध्य रेल) रेल मार्ग को जोड़ने के लिए कोई सर्वेक्षण किया गया है,

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी परिणाम क्या है यदि नहीं, तो क्या ऐसा कोई सर्वेक्षण किए जाने का प्रस्ताव है और यदि हां, तो यह सर्वेक्षण कब तक किया जाएगा, और

(ग) उक्त यदि हां, तो यह सर्वेक्षण कब तक किया जाएगा, और

रेल मंत्री (श्री राम विलास पासवान) : (क) से (ग) बेड़रा-राजगढ़-सिरोज तथा बीना खंड (140 कि.मी.) के लिए टोह इंजीनियरी एंव यातायात सर्वेक्षण शुरू किया गया है, सर्वेक्षण रिपांर्ट प्राप्त हो जाने के बाद इस परियोजना पर आगे विचार किया जा सकेगा।

Proposal to connect Kandla Port with BG line

449. SHRIMATI ANANDIBEN JETHABHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Kandla Port is not connected with BG line so far;

(b) whether j it is also_ a fact that this port is a major port in Gujarat handling a number of specified items for import and export and also handling the work of the Kandla Free Trade Zone activities;

(c) whether there is any plan to connect this port with BG line;

(d) if so, by when it is likely to be taken and completed; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) It is already connected by BG line.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Appointment of Chairman of Railway Recruitment Board

450. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that one of the present Chairman of the Railway Recruitment Board has been recruited after interviews by the Union Public Service Commission but' have been appointed under the discretionary power of the Railway Minister;

(b) whether it is also a fact that such Railway Recruitment Board's Chairman can be appointed by the Minister for a maximum period df six months; and

(c) if so, the reasons for some of such Railway Recruitment Board's Chairman being given extension for further six months?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Pending availability of regularly selected candidates through UPSC, vacancies of the posts of Chairman of Railway Recruitment Boards are filled up on adhoc basis either by Railway officers or by candidates who fulfill the eligibility criteria laid down for the same. Extension of such adhoc arrangement is given on a case to case basis. Keeping administrative exigencies in view and the likely time expected to be taken for filling up the post on a regular basis.

Incomplete Railway Projects

451. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(,a) the details of the Railway projects costing more than Rs. 100 cores that have not been completed as per their targeted time schedule alongwith the details of the targeted completion time of each of these projects;

(b) the details of the cost overrun in respect of the projects running behind their respective targeted time schedule, project-wise; and

(e) the details of the present position of the said projects?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN):